

THE HACKERS GOLF LEAGUE

BY-LAWS

INTRODUCTION

This year's officers are:

Office	
President	Mark Rusnak
Secretary	Andy Linton
Treasurer	Tom Mohsinger
Sub-Coordinator	See Secretary

League play will consist of 15 weeks with 16 regular members, plus a mid-season, and year-end event. For a total of 17 weeks of play.

SECTION 1: MEMBERSHIP

- A. The league maintains that a Regular member is expected to play every week except as illness, vacation, or job requirements may prevent.
- B. Each year, regular members have the option of retaining their regular status if they have played the required ten matches (this number is subject to reduction due to rainouts), in the previous year.
- C. An alternate member (or substitute) is responsible for a reduced weekly green fee (determined at the start of each season), but, is not charged for any "dues". For 2025, that fee has been set to: **\$22**
- D. Alternates are not eligible for place prizes at the banquet, but they are welcome to attend the banquet and will be charged the price of the meal.
- E. When regular positions become available, alternate members will have preference over new members. The alternate member who has played the most matches during the year (or prior year) would receive the first opportunity to fill the regular's position. When alternates (or new) members have equal status, Corporate Benefits Delivery employees have preference; otherwise, all things being equal, the position(s) will be awarded by random drawing.

SECTION 2: FEES

- A. The greens fees will be determined via negotiation with the course. For 2025 it is \$23, and \$14 for renting a cart.
- B. League dues (to cover the cost of the awards and the awards banquet) will be **\$32**.
- C. There will be individual refunds only in the case of job transfer with an allowance for the CTP contest pool.
- D. The Closest-To-The-Pin contest will continue. The pool starting at \$10 will provide a cash prize to regular members for excellent tee shots at course-specific par 3 holes. This charge is included in the league dues. The contest pool will be increased by \$5 each week until won by a player whose tee shot is within **25 feet** of the cup and on the green. After an award, the pot is reset at \$10. All monies remaining at the end of the season will be applied to funding refreshments at the Awards Banquet. Alternate members are allowed to win the closest to the pin prize.

Annual dues are to be sent to the League Treasurer

For 2025: 16 rounds * \$23/round = \$368 + \$32 dues = \$400 total

With our 2023 move to Eagle Crest, there will be a free round, (provided full payment is received NLT 4/1). No free cart-week though.

SECTION 3: SUBSTITUTION

SUBSTITUTION

A list of alternate members will be maintained by the league Substitute Coordinator for the purpose of securing a substitute whose handicap is as close as possible to the handicap of the absent member. In the event of an insufficient number of substitutes or if an opponent is unable to compete due to job requirements, substitutions will then be made as equitably as possible with some members matching other members' cards. In the event of a no show at the course, the Secretary will randomly assign an opponent to match cards.

Members will no longer be reimbursed for the matches missed. Substitutes will pay a set rate (see above) each time they sub, and these funds will be put into the treasury for use toward the banquet and/or awards.

Early notification of pending absences increases our chances of obtaining substitutes.

RE-SCHEDULING

Since courses don't typically allow it, re-scheduling the match with your opponent is no longer an option. All matches must be played on league night and during our allotted tee times.

SECTION 4: FORFEITS

A. The forfeit rule has been eliminated; however, league officers have the option of reviewing the status of any member who is frequently absent.

SECTION 5: SCORING AND HANDICAPPING

A. A regular member must play at least 10 matches to qualify for place awards.

NEW for 2025 League Points:

In an effort to limit the effects of missing rounds, and to try and give everyone as many scoreable rounds as possible, we will be instituting virtual make-up rounds where the player that was out will be matched against their original opponent on the next occasion that they are both playing on the same nine that was missed. If the missed match(es) are at the end of the season, then we would look backwards for the most recent prior week where both players were present on the same nine and then apply the same process there. These scores will be denoted as replacement matches, and the points will be applied as they normally would. Scores will not be used for Hacker Cup purposes, just the normal league points.

NEW for 2025 HACKER CUP modifications:

- a) Any unused points will be divided evenly amongst the players that missed that week, including during the playoffs.
- b) The regular season will be reduced to 10 weeks and the playoffs increased to 5 weeks.
- c) The number of scores to keep during the playoffs will remain 3 + the seed score. This increases from 1 to 2, the number of scores to be thrown out.

B. Prizes will be awarded to Regular members at the year-end banquet based upon average points accumulated per match as follows:

- (1) 1 point for each hole won in handicap match play
½ point for each hole tied
- (2) 1 point for the person who has the low net for the match
½ point for each person if the match is a tie

NEW for 2025 Tiebreaker rules: As result of the three-way tie for 1st place in 2024, we are implementing tiebreak rules to be used for ANY positional ties that may occur. This will result in no further tie situations in any case. The following order will be followed until any/all ties are broken (in all cases sub and card matches will not be used):

- 1st The winner of the regular season match (if any) between the tied players, not including the bonus point.
- 2nd The best Win/Loss/Tie percentage in regular season matches against **common opponents**..
- 3rd Total points scored in regular season matches won and tied against **common opponents**, not including the bonus point.
- 4th Total points scored in regular season matches lost against **common opponents**, not including the bonus point.
- 5th Win/Loss/Tie percentage in **ALL** regular season matches played throughout the season.
- 6th Total points scored in **ALL** regular season matches won and tied, not including the bonus point.
- 7th Total points scored in **ALL** regular season matches lost, not including the bonus point.
- 8th coin flip or rock/paper/scissors

- C. A separate scorecard should be kept for each match showing net score and allocation of points. It should be signed by both players and submitted to the Secretary
- D. The league Secretary will review the scorecards to correct errors (if any) and to adjust them for any strokes more than the maximums stated in rule (F) below. These adjustments will be made prior to computing players handicaps for the next week.
- E. Once a match starts, all players are expected, if possible, to complete the full nine holes. In the event of extreme weather conditions, any player may halt his own play (without the mutual consent of his opponent). If five or more holes have been completed, the match is official and match points for the remaining holes are split. Calculation of a nine-hole score for bonus point consideration shall be made by projecting scores for holes not played based upon par for each such hole, plus the average number of strokes by which par was exceeded for the holes played. Non-completed holes shall be treated as holes not played.
If fewer than 5 holes were played in the match, then the match will be declared no match.
- F. Play will be on a handicap basis which allows a maximum of 3 strokes over par on each hole. The maximum score allowed in computing a handicap, therefore, is:
 - 6 on a par 3 hole
 - 7 on a par 4 hole
 - 8 on a par 5 hole
- G. The maximum nine-hole handicap, starting in 2023 is 30
- H. Handicaps are calculated on the best four out of the last six matches in league play or proportionally for less than 6 matches
- I. Handicap is 100% of the average allowable strokes over par during the matches in consideration
- J. If a player has insufficient Hacker history, the initial handicap will be set by the league Secretary.
- K. Mid- and end-of-season events will no longer be referred to as “scrambles” and will be a format agreed upon by the members.
- L. The league secretary has assumed the sub-coordination duties.
- M. In the interest of improving pace-of-play, players may opt to pick up their ball after reaching double-par on a given hole, in which case they would receive a score double-par + 1. So 7, 9, or 11 if par is 3, 4, or 5, respectively. The secretary asks that scores be recorded on the card with an “X”, in case this new rule ends up having any unexpected impact on match scoring and low net for the purpose of Hacker Cup scoring.

SECTION 6: HACKERS' RULES OF PLAY

- A. Any player has the option not to play during inclement weather.
- B. All league members are required to be at the golf course unless they are notified otherwise by a league officer.
- C. Cancellation of total league play because of inclement weather will be made by:
 - (1) course management (rules surrounding this are course-specific)
 - (2) concurrence by the league officers
 - (3) majority vote of players **if no officers present**
- D. Please keep play moving at all times! Do not spend an unreasonable amount of time looking for a lost ball.
- E. Players should refer all grievances to the league officers.
- F. Please remember that the initial tee shot is the only shot to be considered eligible to receive an award on the closest to the pin holes. When your first tee shot is in the water, you're sunk!
- G. Official USGA rules and regulations shall prevail unless otherwise noted. Listed below are a few rules that will apply in our league.
- H. **REVISED for 2025:** Winter rules have been re-established. This means that you may improve your lie in **YOUR OWN FAIRWAY** by moving the ball within 1 club length but no closer to the hole (lift clean and place may be used in the event of mud on the ball). You may **NOT** improve your lie in the rough, a bunker, or another fairway.
- I. Lost ball or ball out-of-bounds results in a one stroke penalty, and on an optional basis, distance. You may either:
 - (a) hit another ball from the same spot adding a penalty stroke plus counting the bad stroke
 - (b) hit another ball from the spot where the first ball left **THE FAIRWAY** and add a stroke penalty plus count the bad stroke.
- J. Ball lost in Fairway (Plugged) - drop ball in vicinity of area ball was lost - no penalty.
- K. Ball lost in driving range from any shot on 18th hole (Eagle Crest) (See Rule L. below)
- L. Unplayable lie (off the fairway) - you must take a one stroke penalty and drop the ball within two club-lengths of the edge of the fairway, laterally from where the ball lies but no closer to the hole.
- M. Ball plugged, or in standing water - drop ball in nearest dry area no closer to the hole - no penalty.
- N. Unplayable lie (in the fairway) - such as excess water, hoses, sprinklers - no penalty. Drop the ball away from the hazard, but not nearer to the hole.

- O. Ball on roadway - no penalty. Drop ball off roadway, but no nearer the hole.
- P. Opponent's ball strikes your ball on the green - you are penalized one stroke if the opponent is putting, and there is no penalty if they are shooting from off the green. In either event, you must replace your ball.
- Q. Hitting the flagstick - No penalty based on USGA revised rules for 2019
- R. Players have the option to play from alternate tee boxes. This is intended both to make the round more enjoyable and to improve the pace-of-play. Handicaps are adjusted based on the choice, and once chosen, the play should play the same tees for the entire season.

ADJUSTMENT OF RULES

Any of the above rules may be temporarily, or permanently altered with the approval of a majority of members present.

END OF RULES
